

JOHNNY MEEHAN, FAMED FOR HIS 'BEEF AND, DIES

Nephew of Patrick Dolan Was a Valued Friend of Great Men in This Town.

RICHES DIDN'T SPOIL HIM

Honored by the Mighty He Smiled and Kept On Shaving Corned Beef.

Over the door of one of the most famous restaurants in this city there was posted yesterday a sign which read:

"Closed in consequence of the death of John T. Meehan."

The younger generation of this Manhattan may lift quizzical eyebrows at the expression "one of the most famous." But there are thousands of old New Yorkers who, remembering the "beef and" of their youth, not forgetful of Dolan's and the heroic days of the Dolando Club, would have it written that the proprietor of "The most famous restaurant in the city" (and they would insist upon the capital), had passed away when John T. Meehan died early yesterday morning, as printed in *This Sun* yesterday.

For two weeks now those who know Park row only by the arc lights and the blue glare from the post office building, the rank and file of the city's night workers, have missed something when they looked in the window of 33 Park row. The figure of a slender smiling man with whiskers, a diamond and a white apron was not in its accustomed place by that window shaving with artistic nicety tempting slices of beef.

John T. Meehan was at his home at 1840 the Concourse, at 176th street, The Bronx, ill of stomach trouble. No one thought his illness was serious, and his brothers who came to the restaurant to answer the questions of postmen and politicians, of printers and lawyers, of those from every walk of life who asked after their friend John T. responded that he would soon be out again.

On Saturday he was out and visited the Elks lodge in The Bronx, where he was a prominent member. But he complained of feeling ill when he went to bed that night, and at 2:30 o'clock yesterday morning he died in his wife's arms.

Into the columns of latter day chroniclers there has come no mention of "Sinkers," "The Mouse" and "Sarsaparilla Reilly." The brave tales of their doings, the stories of the Dolando Club, the record of the running of those famous steeds Dolando and Meehan survive now only in the yellow clippings that hang framed in the darkened lunch room and in the memories of those whose Park row geography was summed up as being from "Dolan's to Andy Horn's." And there are those who daily walk the row and have never heard of Andy Horn's.

John T. Meehan was born in the old Seventh ward fifty-five years ago. His uncle, Patrick Dolan, had \$20 and enterprise. He came from County Cavan when he was 10 years of age. Above Bar-num's Museum, and not long before the big fire, he opened a beany at 3 Park row. The nephew came there to work before he was out of knee breeches and the place flourished and the name of it became known. It was really a coffee and cake place when it started and today the sign above the restaurant at 33 Park row, where Meehan moved, says, "Dolan's Coffee and Lunch Room."

Young Meehan had the Celtic felicity of making friends and holding them. His smile which he kept till the end was no political urbanity to be put on and off as occasion demanded. Men of his own race high up in the councils in Fourteenth street used to come in to talk over downtown affairs with the shrewd young man, who attended to his business and at the same time came to know lots of things about his customers missed by the unobservant.

Politicians, however, did not have the place to themselves, for from midnight on there came editors, staff reporters and free lances from all the papers in the row. First editions were used as napkins in the basement below 3 Park row, and the writers of other days, when there was no lunch room and no room for that sort of thing, were quick to take advantage of the copy that was lying loose in the dark little place.

Dolan and his nephew soon became famous all over town. In 1880 Dolan moved upstairs, where there was room for only six tables, and he brought up his bill of fare with him. It was that the Dolan fortune grew until at the time of his death Patrick Dolan left an estate said to be worth \$900,000.

Coffee and cakes..... 10
Corned beef..... 10
Baked ham..... 10
Pork and beans..... 10
Pickled tongue..... 10
Bread and milk..... 10
Two loaves..... 10
Spot cash was the basis upon which the place was so successfully run. And a record of thirty seconds to fill an order of beef and beans and coffee and cakes was set up, to the despair of humbler rivals.

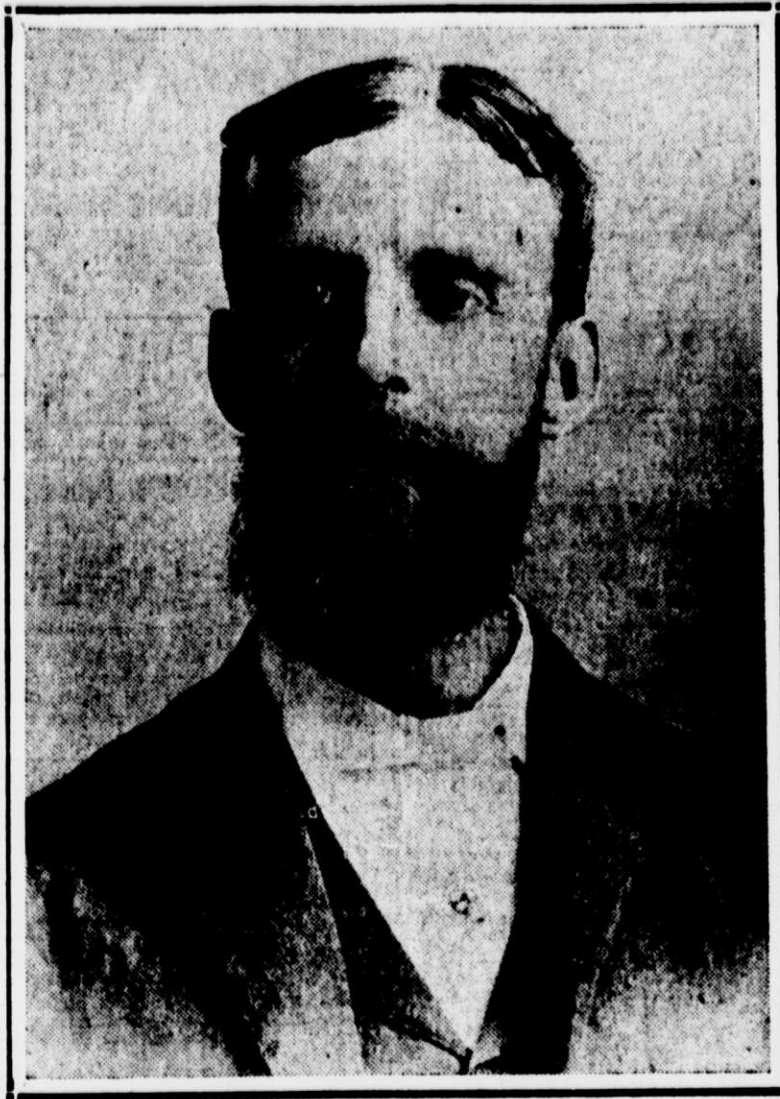
The men who came there to bask in the smile of John T. and his uncle and the list of their names makes a Who's Who of everybody worth while, from P. T. Barnum and Horace Greeley clear down to the very youngest of the Judges of the highest courts sitting to-day.

In March, 1907, in the pretentious ballroom of a hotel, where the price of one portion of "beef and" would have bankrupted many of John T.'s customers in the days of their youth, there gathered to celebrate the fiftieth birthday of the lunchroom man Congressmen and bootlickers and State Senators and letter carriers and Justices and jockeys. The celebration began with a parade in the morning under flags that swung out to the breezes all along Park row.

Supreme Court Justice Peter A. Hendrick made a speech that came near nominating John T. for Mayor, and Comptroller Metz declared that he, as his father had done before him, daily devoured his "beef and" on the row. Theodore Roosevelt sent a laudatory letter, and Charles F. Murphy did the same, and the letter carriers made John T. a thousand dollar gift, and altogether it was a day that Sinkers and his friends never forgot. It didn't seem to turn the head of the recipient of all these honors any, for the next day he was back again smiling over his diamond and apron and beef.

With the name of Meehan those who went down to the racetracks to cheer the Meehan colors always associated

JOHN T. MEEHAN



that of the clever little Danny Maher, who rode to fame on Dolando and Meehan, two horses that added considerably to Mr. Meehan's income.

Danny won his first race on Dolando and there came a new class of customers to the lunch room to talk of weights and pockets and things of the track and sometimes slide up to Peter De Lacy's place upstairs, when the lunch room had moved to its larger quarters up the line, in 1893, and make what was usually a pretty safe bet on the Meehan colors.

Some years ago Mr. Meehan told his friends that his ventures on the turf had been successful so far as his own horses were concerned.

"I paid \$1,200 for Meehanus," he said. "While he was in my stable I won \$27,000 with him clear of all expenses and sold him for \$10,000."

It was through that fortunate investment that it came about that a king of England heard of the lunchman of Park row, for Danny, faithful to his old employer who gave him his start, was loud in Meehan's praises when he went to the other side and whirled the colors of King Edward to many, many victories.

From the racehorse the Dolando Club got its name. This organization for the mere promotion of human talk about everything interesting to human beings was organized in 1900. Peter J. Hickey, who supplied most of Meehan's beef from his Washington Market stall, and who died just the other day, was one of the founders. The club met in the beany and only for special occasions such as the winter festival did they leave the row. You cannot find today in the books anything to show that the Dolando Club still lives except in memory.

In 1903 Patrick Dolan died and John T. Meehan was directed to carry on the business. He got half of the property and an eighth went to each of four nephews.

One day three years later the postman arrived in a state of great excitement with a letter for his friend behind the counter that had the magic "Executive Mansion" seal in one corner. It was an invitation from President Roosevelt to Mr. and Mrs. Meehan to a reception in the White House on January 18. Mr. Roosevelt knew Meehan and the quality of his beans when he used to stop in late at night at the time that he was Police Commissioner and was waking up sleepy police captains in downtown precincts.

That invitation went into a frame on the wall next to the yellowed copy of a very old number of *This Sun* and the picture of friend Big Tim Sullivan.

Periodically Big Tim Sullivan dropped in Meehan's restaurant for a plate of "beef and." The coming of the big fellow was always an event and the excitement attending it spread to the customers who knew the Tammany leader's habits.

Sullivan would eat his fifteen cents worth of "beef and," hand the waiter a silver dollar and walk out.

When Meehan was in Washington he stopped over a day to talk over old times with Senators Platt and Dewey and it was his boast that that was the first time he had been away from his place a whole day in thirty-three years. Then it took a President and two Senators to make him desert the row.

Mayor Van Wyck made him a member of the school board and that is the only public office Meehan ever held, though when he went up to the Bronx from his home on Madison avenue they wanted to make him everything from Congressman to Borough President.

Meehan's real estate deals in The Bronx are said to have made him a comfortable fortune, but there came no arrogance with the money.

Among the interesting things in Dolan's restaurant is an oil painting entitled "A Barrel of Money." It represents a barrel crammed with bills of all denominations from \$1 to \$50, till they bulge from the top and hang over the edges.

So realistic is the money that Federal agents threatened to have the picture destroyed under the laws against counterfeiting. Mr. Meehan's political friends in Washington carried the matter to the Treasury Department.

Lyman J. Gage, then Secretary of the Treasury, wrote and signed an order to all Department agents not to disturb Meehan's barrel of money. An autographed copy of this order hangs in a frame beside the painting.

Behind the model in the window of the queer little houses with their brick facings and fanlight doors that made framed clippings from the brilliant pens of those who had ungrudgingly sung his praise, he daily served his beef and beans, a very active figure in the history of our city and one of the last of those men so many of whom are passing now who know most

everybody in the old town and whose acquaintance most everybody was proud to treasure.

Mr. Meehan leaves his mother, Jane; his wife, Susan; three brothers, Augustus, Peter and Charles, and six children, Grace, Susette, Eleanor, Westmore, Francis and Vincent, the eldest 20, the youngest 7 years old.

His funeral will take place from his residence on Wednesday. The Elks, of the Bronx lodge of which he was a member, will hold services on Tuesday.

Mr. Meehan's brothers had not decided yesterday just what the future of the restaurant will be, but they will run it for the present.

LITTLE FALLS STRIKE QUIET.

Men Not Attempting Violence That Was Earlier Feared.

LITTLE FALLS, N. Y., Oct. 27.—This city was exceptionally quiet to-day, no incident of any seriousness developing from the strike of the foreign textile operatives in the local mills. Calling workmen "scabs" and carrying banners branding them as such have been abandoned, and the strikers, following the advice of the Rev. Robert Bakeman, the Schenectady socialist agitator, will attempt to win their fight by peaceful methods rather than by violence, which it appeared a few days ago would mark the progress of the strike.

Benjamin Schrager of Chicago, organizer for the Industrial Workers of the World, who was arrested for having an encounter with a truckman who drove a wagon through the line of strike pickets at the Rex mill, must get out of Little Falls by to-morrow, according to a ruling by Recorder Collins, who also fined the Chicagoan \$15 on his plea of guilty.

FEAR MINISTER MAY CHEAT LAW

Vaughn, to Die for Assaulting Child, Threatens Suicide.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Oct. 27.—Closely guarded lest he try to kill himself, the Rev. Thurston Vaughn, a prominent and wealthy Baptist minister, who was yesterday sentenced to be put to death on December 1 for ravishing five little girls, spent the day in his cell weeping and praying. At times he became so violent that guards had to interfere to prevent his injuring himself.

While admitting that he mistreated the girls, Vaughn asserts that the devil should be blamed. Neither Mrs. Vaughn nor his daughter has visited Vaughn since he confessed.

Vaughn was in charge of the South Carolina Odd Fellows Home and the little girls were orphans in his charge. Physicians who have examined Vaughn are inclined to doubt whether he is responsible and should be executed.

HEAR ALL ALASKA'S WOES.

Federal Commissioners Get Many Stories About Territory.

CORPORA, Alaska, Oct. 27.—The Federal commission investigating a feasible railway route into Alaska reached Chitina Thursday. Yesterday the commissioners visited the Bonanza mines. They are due here to-night en route to Juneau, Haines and Skagway.

The route inland over the old Dalton trail remains to be investigated. The commissioners have had many novel experiences, such as "sour dough" meals at roadhouses and riding behind dog teams. Alaskans have poured their grievances into the ears of Dr. Alfred Brooks and his fellow commissioners, believing they will present the real facts to Congress despite politics and muckrakers.

RED MAN

TEAKWOOD
SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN GRAYWOOD
THE SAME PERFECT FIT
2 for 25

EARL & WILSON
SHIRTS 31c AND MORE

Factory Buildings Ill-suited

to your manufacturing needs is like working with poor tools.

See me before you even begin thinking of your new factory. I will start you thinking right.

My business is designing factories, mills and warehouses only.

A factory should be a machine to produce profits.

Send for my book, "How Brown Builds." No personal calls unless you request them—but get my book. It explains.

John G. Brown
426 Witherspoon Bldg.,
PHILADELPHIA.

AMUSEMENTS.

NEW YORK'S LEADING THEATRES

EMPIRE 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **JOHN DREW LAST 2 WEEKS** Alfred Sutor's comedy **THE PERPLEXED HUSBAND.**

LYCEUM 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **Miss BILLIE BURKE** "Everybody will go to see me in the 'MIND THE PAINT' GIRL."

CRITERION 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **BACHELORS & BENEDICTS** A New Comedy with Ralph Herz EXTRA MAT. Comedy with Ralph Herz EXTRA MAT.

GARRICK 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **JOHN MASON** "The Thief."

HUDSON 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **HELEN WARE** "The Thief."

FULTON 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **THE FIGHT** A New Play by Elmer Harris.

PARK 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **CLIFFORD CRAWFORD** "The Thief."

HARRIS 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **A RICH MAN'S SON** A New Comedy.

NEW AMSTERDAM 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **THE COURT OF LUXEMBOURG** Extra Matinee Election Day.

LIBERTY 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **MILESTONES** Extra Matinee Election Day.

KNICKERBOCKER 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **OH! OH! DELPHINE** Extra Matinee Election Day.

MOULIN ROUGE 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **ZIEGFELD FOLLIES** Extra Matinee Election Day.

GAITY 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **OFFICER GEE** Extra Matinee Election Day.

GLOBE 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **THE WOMAN HATERS** Extra Matinee Election Day.

ASTOR 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **THE ROSE MAID** Extra Matinee Election Day.

REPUBLIC 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **THE MERRY COMEDY** Extra Matinee Election Day.

WALLACK'S 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **THE NEW SIN** Extra Matinee Election Day.

THEATRE 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **LITTLE "ANATOL"** Extra Matinee Election Day.

ELTINGE 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **WITHIN THE LAW** Extra Matinee Election Day.

NEW AMERICAN 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **GALSTON** Extra Matinee Election Day.

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Blotting out wrong impressions! We're not a high-priced house.

We naturally talk a lot about our finest suits, and the exclusive woollens we import direct.

But the bulk of our business is with men of modest purse—the man who wants a suit for \$25 or less.

Whatever the price, it represents full value.

And everything we sell is backed by—"your money back if you want it"—with us a guarantee honored by age but full of vitality.

Fall suits and overcoats. Everything men and boys wear.

ROGERS PEET COMPANY,
Three Broadway Stores
at Warren st. 13th st. 34th st.

Schlichter's Underwear

The Original
Ramlie Fibre
Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
"Report No. 7 of the Department of Agriculture, Fibre Investigation, terms Ramlie as the most wonderful and most valuable of all fibres."
Guaranteed absolutely pure Ramlie Linen Underwear is for sale with the highest class dealers. High class dealers everywhere.

Write for booklet and samples.
SCHLICHTER'S RAMLIE COMPANY
475 Broome Street New York

AMUSEMENTS.

WINTER GARDEN

39TH ST. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **THE BLINDNESS OF VIRTUE** Extra Matinee Election Day.

SOOTHY AND MARLOWE 39th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **THE MERRY COMEDY** Extra Matinee Election Day.

PLAYHOUSE 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **LITTLE WOMEN** Extra Matinee Election Day.

46TH ST. THEATRE 46th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **LITTLE MISS BROWN** Extra Matinee Election Day.

REPUBLIC 4th St. E. 4th St. Eves. 8:15. Mat. Wed. & Sat. & Election Day. **THE MERRY COMEDY** Extra Matinee Election Day.

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